

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 03425 102041Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7987
INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
ALL OTHER CANADIAN POSTS POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 03425

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, PFOR, CA, HU
SUBJECT: DOROTHY ARMSTRONG TO BE NEW CANADIAN AMBASSADOR
TO HUNGARY

1. THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS HAS ANNOUNCED THAT
MS. DOROTHY J. ARMSTRONG HAS BEEN APPOINTED AMBASSADOR
OF CANADA TO HUNGARY. FOLLOWING ARE BIODATA:

2. BORN AT ELVA, MANITOBA ON JULY 30, 1931, MS. ARMSTRONG
RECEIVED A B.A. FROM MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY IN 1952.
SHE TOOK ADDITIONAL COURSES AT LAVAL UNIVERSITY AND OXFORD
UNIVERSITY. IN 1956 SHE EARNED HER M.A. DEGREE AT
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, WHERE SHE HAD ALSO SERVED AS A
RESEARCH ASSISTANT IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL ECONOMY.
SHE ALSO STUDIED IN 1956 AT THE INSTITUT DES ETUDES
POLITIQUES AT UNIVERSITY OF PARIS. IN SEPTEMBER 1957,
SHE JOINED DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND SUBSE-
QUENTLY HELD THE FOLLOWING POSIITONS: THIRD SECRETARY,
NEW DELHI, NOV. 1959; SECOND SECRETARY, NEW DELHI, 1960;
SECOND SECRETARY PARIS (OECD), JAN. 1962; DEPARTMENT OF
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SEPT. 1964 (EUROPEAN DIV.); COUNSELLOR
AT BONN, JULY 1968; OTTAWA JUNE 1973 (POLICY ANALYSIS
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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 03425 102041Z

GROUP); OTTAWA APRIL 1974 (DIRECTOR, NORTHWEST EUROPEAN
DIVISION). SHE IS SINGLE.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS NOT HAD FREQUENT CONTACT WITH
MS. ARMSTRONG IN HER CAPACITY AS DIRECTOR OF NORTHWEST
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS, BUT EMBOFFS HAVE MET HER FREQUENTLY ON
THE DIPLOMATIC SOCIAL CIRCUIT. WE FIND HER COOL, SELF-

POSSESSED, OCCASIONALLY ASTRINGENT, AND QUITE FORTHRIGHT
IN EXPRESSING HER OWN VIEWPOINT. HER POLITICAL VIEWS
ARE LEFT OF CENTER, AND SHE HAS SOMETIMES CAST A CRITICAL
EYE ON U.S. FOREIGN POLICIES FROM THAT VIEWPOINT. SHE
IS, FOR EXAMPLE, AN ADMIRER OF OLAF PALME'S POLICIES
BOTH FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC. WITHAL, SHE IS NOT UNFRIENDLY.
OUR COLLEAGUES IN THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION GIVE HER
HIGH MARKS FOR HER COOPERATIVESNESS AND SUBSTANTIVE
KNOWLEDGE OF HER AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY. WE SUSPECT THAT
HER APPOINTMENT AS AMBASSADOR TO HUNGARY IS DUE IN PART
TO EFFORTS BY SENIOR OFFICIALS IN EXTAFF TO UP-GRADE THE
ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE CANADIAN DIPLOMATIC SERVICE.
ENDERS

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